

Air Force Prime Time, a weekly news magazine for and about airmen stationed overseas, airs Thursday evenings at 8:25 p.m. Central European Time on AFN television. In this week's edition, travel to Morocco, Africa, with the 37th Airlift Squadron; spend a day with aircrews and maintainers when they're far from home; and more.



News briefs

Wing change of command

Col. Gregory Ihde assumes command of the 52nd Fighter Wing from Brig. Gen. Don Hoffman during a 12:30 p.m. ceremony Wednesday in Hangar 1.

Ihde comes to Spangdahlem Air Base from AIRNORTH at Ramstein AB.

Following the ceremony, a reception takes place in the officers club.

German legal assistance

No German legal assistance will be available through the base legal office May 21-25 because of an international law conference. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Sabina Medina-Floyd at 452-6796.

Dormitory managers

The civil engineer squadron housing flight accepts applications for dormitory managers. The special-duty assignment tour length is a minimum of two years, with the option of extending for a third.

Staff sergeants and above are eligible to apply; however, squadrons must agree to release people for the position. For more information, call Master Sgt. Donnie Henderson at 452-5556.

ALS open house

Pitsenbarger Airman Leadership School holds an open house at 10:30 a.m. May 22. Retired Lt. Col. Henry O'Berine is the guest speaker. O'Berine is the officer who pulled Medal of Honor recipient Airman 1st Class William Pitsenbarger out of the jungle the day after the actions that earned him the medal. For more information, call the school at 452-9016.

Mail tip

Military mail handlers in New York report it's common for brown-paper wrapped packages to arrive from Europe with the address torn off, according to Senior Master Sgt. Wayne Haugen, base postal operations superintendent.

See Briefs, Page 2

Eifel Times

Vol. 35, Issue 17

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

May 11, 2001



Senior Airman Jennifer Lindsey

Airman 1st Class Mark Sanders, 23rd Fighter Squadron electrical specialist, waits to launch the first group of Spangdahlem Air Base F-16s in exercise SIRIO-01 at Zaragoza Air Base, Spain. The exercise took place Saturday through Thursday.

U.S. fighters return to Spain for NATO exercise SIRIO-01

By Senior Airman Jennifer Lindsey
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

ZARAGOZA AIR BASE, Spain — U.S., Spanish, French and Portuguese fighters again joined forces to practice combined aerial offensive and defensive skills in Spain during NATO exercise SIRIO-01 Saturday through Thursday.

Five 23rd Fighter Squadron F-16CJs from Spangdahlem Air Base, two 100th Air Refueling Wing KC-135s from Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England, and more than 160 airmen operated from Zaragoza Air Base in northern Spain in support of the exercise.

In Spain's southern skies, the NATO allied forces performed aerial dogfights and refueling sorties, offering commanders and pilots practice in multinational communications, military strategic operations and training.

SIRIO-01 offers such training by using fictional offensive and defensive scenarios. This year, Portuguese fighters played the role of invaders of a fictional country belonging to the

Spanish. As allies, U.S. and French air forces assisted the Spanish in defending the land.

"The exercise offered us (the U.S., Spanish and the French) the opportunity to plan missions together and employ as a package," said Maj. Jim Dibble, 23rd FS deployed detachment commander. "It also provided us great insight as to how the Spanish exercise defensive missions."

One of the most common challenges everyone from pilots to mechanics faced was communicating. Most of the Spanish, French and Portuguese members understand at least some English, which is used as an international business language, but it's often limited.

"The tactics are solid, but there is a slight language barrier," said 1st Lt. Jeff Jeffres, 23rd FS pilot. "Exercises like this help us prepare for aerial combat. Understanding the radio

See Spain, Page 2

USAFE launches command-wide review of 'people processes'

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe launched a new program earlier this year aimed at making USAFE a place people want to come to, starting with their first impressions.

Gen. Greg Martin, USAFE commander, announced Project First Look at the recent Spring Commander's Conference.

"This is a command-wide effort," he said, "to improve the way USAFE recruits new people, moves them and their families to Europe, conducts in-processing, and meets the member's and family's quality of life expectations while living in USAFE."

The general emphasized the current processes are not broken, but there's a need to review issues and spark "USAFE pride" when it comes to taking care of people.

However, "it's difficult to address every issue for every person within the theater at once," said Lt. Gen. Glen Moorhead, USAFE's vice commander. Consequently, Ramstein Air Base was identified in First Look's early stages as the test base.

The remaining installation First Look teams, as they form and develop, will be able to draw from some of the lessons Ramstein AB has already learned.

Martin told wing commanders the next time he visits their bases, he wants to see their wing's First Term Airmen's Center, temporary living quarters, housing referral process, in-processing procedures, child development center and medical facility.

"The idea is to revitalize our key processes and physical environments," Martin said. "We want to ensure we are taking care of our people, both permanent party and temporary duty."

"The bottom line," Moorhead said, "is Project First Look ensures we cover our people from getting here, to living here, to leaving here."

Accidents

By Master Sgt. Franklin McElhaney
52nd Security Forces Squadron Reports and Analysis

Last week was the first time this year we had less accidents than the same period the previous year.

There were only two major accidents involving Eifel drivers.

Shortly after midnight Monday, the first accident took place on K-44 between Bergweiler and Bruch. The vehicle hit a guardrail and the force of impact sent it over the guardrail and landed on the roof. No other details are unavailable because of the accident investigation.

The second major accident of the week involved a German national driving a car and an American riding

her bicycle on B-422 in Albertmuehle. The German was attempting to pass the cyclist when the rider swerved into the other lane. This caused the driver to hit the rear of her bicycle. Schweich Polizei responded, took statements and assumed investigative responsibility. The bicycle rider was taken to Marian Krankenhaus in Trier, where she was treated for minor cuts. German law requires a one-meter clearance when passing a bicyclist riding on the side of the road.

Many of the 10 minor accidents resulted from people backing up before checking the area behind their vehicles. These accidents occurred not in parking lots, but on streets and near entry gates. Animal accidents have also been on the rise. Many times while trying to avoid animals, people end up worse off than if they had hit the animal.

There has been a total of 900 citations issued this year, 155 (17 percent) of these citations were for speeding on B-50. Currently, there is a temporary speed zone by Metterich that requires drivers to slow to 50 kilometers per hour. A majority of the tickets have been in this area.

Also, pay attention to stop and yield signs at intersections. Remember the right-of-way rule if there are no signs.

Safe driving includes awareness of surroundings, the traffic rules and being ready for the unexpected.

B-50

Current wing policy prohibits people driving on B-50 from passing vehicles traveling 40 kph or more.



Spain

Continued from Page 1

communications (of foreign allies) can be difficult because we're used to speaking to other pilots whom all use the same language. I worked on speaking more clearly and slowly over the radio."

As part of practicing aerial offensive and defensive tactics, the allies also honed aerial refueling techniques. KC-135 refueling tankers from RAF Mildenhall flew an average of three sorties daily throughout the exercise, providing aerial refueling training for all the fighter pilots.

"This exercise offered us a great opportunity to fly our new Pacer CRAG jets in a different environment with combined forces to see how we do with the new radar, navigation system and collision avoidance equipment," said Lt. Col. Max Rothman, 100th ARW deployed detachment commander. "There haven't been any real limitations from what we've seen."

The American's presence in Zaragoza AB isn't new to local Spaniards since it was a thriving military community until 1994. Today, Zaragoza AB is only used by U.S. Air Forces in Europe for combined military exercises and by NASA as an alternate space shuttle landing site.

Briefs

Continued from Page 1

Postal employees look for an address, but if there's none, the package is sent to the dead parcel branch. Haugen suggests people write the address on or inside any box to help ensure it reaches its destination.

Corrections

The two people who won U.S. Army, Europe, acting awards for "Don't Dress for Dinner" were incorrectly identified in last week's newspaper. It should have read:

■Tanya Linette Weiss, 52nd Medical Operations Squadron, received best comedy actress honors.

■Special Agent Todd Langenfeld, Air Force Office of Special Investigations, received best director of a comedy honors.

In addition, Tech. Sgt. George Deshields, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron, was selected as the U.S. Air Forces in Europe military fire officer of the year for 2000.

Resurfacing project

Curbstone replacement, resurfacing and painting Bitburg Annex military housing parking lots takes place through June. Construction begins at buildings 4-6, followed by buildings 8-9. The project will be done in three phases. Parking will be limited with each phase as follows:

■Phase I — Residents should park vehicles at least six feet from the curb or on Barnwell street. Building 6 residents can use building four parking spaces throughout this phase.



Senior Airman Jennifer Lindsey

Vital test

Senior Airman Joe Sliper, fuels operations journeyman, fills a beaker with liquid oxygen for transport to the fuels lab. At the lab, Sliper performs an odor test. After the liquid sits at room temperature for a few minutes, if it smells like egg salad the oxygen is no good and must be replaced. Pilots breathe the mixture while flying and if it's bad, they can suffer from oxygen deprivation and pass out.

■Phases II and III — Residents must park outside the cul-de-sac, along Barnwell Street.

Residents planning to leave the area during this time should park their vehicles outside of the construction area before departing. Call Staff Sgt. Robert Lewis at 452-6747 for more information.

Safety classroom moves

The safety classroom relocated to Spangdahlem Air Base building 316. Course-two local conditions driving safety, supervisor safety training and unit ground manager safety training takes place in the first-floor classroom. Call 452-7233 for details.

Tip of the Hat

At Spangdahlem Air Base, combat boots may be removed while bowling on base in uniform.

Also, wearing headgear on the flightline and on or near active taxiways or ramps is prohibited. An exception applies when people are meeting or escorting distinguished visitors. Organizational commanders may designate an immediate area as "no-hat" required during the attendance of a special function or event. Permanent "no-hat" areas are listed in attachment five of the Spangdahlem AB supplement to AFI 36-2903, "Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel."

This information and more on the

standards of dress and appearance and customs and courtesies is contained in AFI 36-2903, AFI 36-2903-SABSUP 1 and AFMAN 36-2203.

Instructors wanted

The 52nd Communications Squadron seeks people with knowledge in Microsoft Office applications to instruct software training programs. Classes include software installation and configuration; beginner and intermediate Word, PowerPoint and Excel; beginner, intermediate and advanced Access; Hyper Text Markup Language; WEB development; and FrontPage.

Classes take place during regular duty hours. For more information, call the 52nd Fighter Wing Software Training Office at 452-5384.

Mail hold

Postal regulations require parcels not claimed within 15 days to be returned to the sender. To prevent this from happening while on leave or TDY, postal customers should complete a PS Form 2258, "Temporary Mail Disposition Instruction," before departing.

By using the form, customers may elect to have their mail held or forwarded. Also, filling out a PS Form 3801, "Standing Delivery Order," allows a friend temporary authorization to pick up mail.

Spangdahlem honors volunteers of year, six awards given from among 24 nominees

By **Jacqueline Abell**
Civilian personnel office

Base officials handed out six awards to local people from among 24 nominees during the annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony for 2000 April 27.

Officials said competition was tough this year, with more than 1,030 registered volunteers at Spangdahlem Air Base and Bitburg Annex. The winners and the awards are:

■Volunteer Excellence Award - Donna Lennemann

Lennemann devote more than 120 hours a month to Spangdahlem Elementary School. She is the currently Parent, Teacher and Student Association president and has worked on several committees as well as assisted with book fairs, country fairs, field day, bazaars, Dad's Day and more.



Lennemann

■Unsung Hero Award - Gillian Gough (she recently moved to Dover Air Force Base, Del.)

As the administrative assistant for the Bitburg Annex Family Support Center, she donated more than 1,300 hours during the year and handled more than 12,000 customer contacts at the center. Among her contributions was compiling a list of resource library assets that resulted in improving customer research time by 50 percent. She was

also a key contributor in the fiscal 2000 functional inspection.

■Best of the Best Award - Jaime Torres

Torres is from Kleine Brogel Air Base, Belgium. She volunteered more than 1,800 hours with the 52nd Munitions Support Squadron medical aid station, saving the Air Force more than \$17,000. Dating back to 1991, she has collected more than \$10,000 in unpaid bills for local providers and hospitals. In addition, she processed more than 600 medical vicinity travel vouchers and reduced the payments from \$2,769 per month to less than \$1,950.



Torres

■Diversity Award - Yvonne VanDuser

Her numerous volunteer endeavors led to this award. She volunteered 116 hours at the Bitburg Elementary School helping 20 kindergarten students. She gave 146 hours to the 52nd Fighter Wing Key Spouses, working as the spouse and family focal point for the 52nd Component Repair Squadron. She assembled more than 70 care packages to send to deployed troops in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, wrote and sent monthly meeting notices and newsletters to more than 120 families



VanDuser

informing them of community events and news. She volunteered 228 hours at the Tax Shelter, preparing 106 returns and saving more than \$11,000 in tax preparation fees. VanDuser worked 151 hours with Mothers of Preschoolers, greeting new members, serving as financial adviser and organizing the book club. In addition, she volunteered more than 40 hours with the Girl Scouts as an assistant troop leader.

■Youth Sports Activity Award - Master Sgt. Patrick and Lori Lewis

This couple contributed a combined 160 hours during the youth baseball season, handling parent concerns, making phone calls and compiling league regulations. They donated another 160 hours to the basketball season as officials, at practices and games, and as scorekeepers. They volunteered another 160 hours, single-handedly running the indoor soccer season.



Patrick Lewis



Lori Lewis

■Special Achievement Award - Honor guard

This award was given as a surprise to the honor guard for the numerous tasks for which it receives little or no recognition.

Command leans forward to ensure CAA success USAFE advisers attend first MAJCOM-sponsored conference

By **Maj. Mike Young**
U.S. Air Forces in Europe Public Affairs

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — Career assistance advisers from throughout U.S. Air Forces in Europe attended the first Air Force MAJCOM-sponsored CAA conference last month.

The two-day "how goes it" conference was sponsored by USAFE's Commander, Gen. Greg Martin, and hosted by the Director of Personnel, Col. Frances Martin.

"USAFE is taking the lead to ensure we give this important initiative all the support possible," said Capt. Jayne Warner, USAFE personnel support. "General Martin provided each CAA \$16,000 to establish a professional, welcoming office environment."

The first day of the conference began with remarks from COMUSAFE, the USAFE command chief and conference co-sponsor, Chief Master Sgt. Vickie Mauldin, and Colonel Martin.

This leadership guidance focused around the importance of the job each CAA stepped up to -- an Air Force initiative to help in the retention effort -- in addition to lending encouragement and support as the CAAs face various challenges.

"A definite highlight was sitting across the table from our commander and command chief, and them asking us what they could do to make our programs successful," said Senior Master Sgt. Kimberly Trost, 86th Airlift Wing career assistance adviser.

"Our meeting with General Martin and Chief Mauldin put the command's focus up

Stay or go decisions are strictly personal and making those decisions from facts supervisors receive from career assistance advisers is critical.

Master Sgt. Deno Mackin

close and personal and allowed for our direct feedback straight to the top of the chain," said Senior Master Sgt. Chuck Blakeslee, 48th Fighter Wing CAA. "The feedback process doesn't get anymore streamlined than that."

Day one also provided an opportunity for the CAAs to "show and tell" their unique situations and programs related to their respective bases.

The second day of the conference consisted of a series of briefings provided by representatives from Recruiting Service and various staff agencies. Topics included public affairs, enlisted assignments, retraining, transition assistance and the

Career Status Bonus and Redux retirement plan.

With this information, "CAAs provide supervisors the necessary tools to educate subordinates on the benefits of an Air Force career," said Master Sgt. Orlando Higgins, Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, CAA.

General Martin told the attendees one of their primary goals is to train the first-line supervisors.

What follows, said Master Sgt. John Thomas, 31st Fighter Wing CAA, is that "supervisors must take on the responsibility of mentoring their airmen on Air Force benefits."

"Stay or go decisions are strictly personal and making those decisions from facts supervisors receive from career assistance advisers is critical," said Master Sgt. Deno Mackin, 52nd Fighter Wing CAA.

Keeping up with career counseling, monitoring pay and benefits programs and conducting local advertising and publicity programs is a full-time responsibility.

"Our biggest challenge to the folks is getting them the most accurate information in a timely manner through the proper channels," said Master Sgt. Jeff Stark from Royal Air Force Mildenhall's 100th Air Refueling Wing. "The bottom line is to eliminate the barracks lawyers and rampant rumors."

For more information concerning career assistance advisers, try the Air Force Personnel Center at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/ and go to the "AF Retention" links and click on the CAA information button.

Open season marks changes to savings plan for civilians

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Federal civilian employees covered by the Civil Service Retirement System or the Federal Employees' Retirement System will find some changes in the Thrift Savings Plan designation process and a number of new options during the next TSP open season, Tuesday to July 31.

Previously, employees used the BEST telephone automated system or the Web to select the contribution amount (the dollar amount or percentage employees choose to invest) and their contribution allocation (the various funds in which employees invest their money).

Beginning with this open season, employees will use the BEST automated system only to contribute, change their contribution amount or to terminate their TSP contributions. Access the BEST Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/BEST/menu.htm. To use the telephone automated system, dial (800) 997-2378.

Employees wishing to change their contribution allocation must contact the TSP service office directly at www.tsp.gov, or by calling the Thriftline at (504) 255-8777. (Air Force Print News)

Shop talk: Former Spang pilot describes harrowing Allied Force mission

By Capt. Kevin "Hobo" Sutton
(as told to Christopher Moore)

(Editor's Note: The following is the first in an eight-part series highlighting exciting sorties flown by Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., pilots. Sutton flew the following mission in an F-16 while a member of the 22nd Fighter Squadron. He is currently a member of the 79th Fighter Squadron at Shaw AFB.)



Sutton

SHAW AIR FORCE BASE, S.C. — The only "war" I'd seen prior to Operation Allied Force was during sorties in Operations Northern and Southern Watch over Iraq. I knew this time the stakes were higher.

It was my second sortie of the conflict. We were supporting a strike package carrying out NATO operations over the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. It was in the middle of the night, as were most of our missions.

I had been in Squadron Officer School when the war kicked off, so I flew as a wingman on this mission to get my proficiency back. We had two four ships of F-16Cs flying the Suppression of Enemy Air Defenses mission and F-15Cs handling the air-to-air role while other F-16s, F-15Es and French Mirage 2000s dropped bombs.

I was part of the four ship that would set up 40 miles west of Belgrade.

Upon entering Yugoslavia, we were at about 20,000 feet in what we call a CAP, or combat air patrol. It's a race track-like formation we fly. That way at least two of our jets are pointed at the target at all times and we can see the surface-to-air missiles and anti-aircraft artillery.

Belgrade had already taken a heck of a beating. It was eerie to see a big city like

that with only a few lights on. You have to remember that in a CAP, our lights are out and the radio is silent. We can't see each other so we have to rely quite heavily on our radar.

We'd only been in the country for about five minutes when it got wild. I was in the CAP headed right at Belgrade when I started my turn away from the city. As I completed my turn and was pointed away from Belgrade, I noticed a glow on my canopy behind me.

At about that time, another pilot in the four ship radioed that there were at least six SAMs in the air and they were headed toward me! I turned to find them and could see two specks of light, which meant missiles were in the air.

It was kind of surreal. I just stared at the lights for what seemed like a long time but was only a few seconds. You check to see if the points of light are moving across the canopy. If so, the SAMs are not tracking you. Unfortunately for me, the lights I saw were just getting closer and closer.

That's when I got very nervous. I'd seen a SAM before, but it was over Iraq during the day and it tracked me. This was a different animal.

I started defensive maneuvers and lost track of the number one and two jets. Number three in the formation also started defensive maneuvers. I decided to go full afterburner and get as much airspeed as I could. I jettisoned the external fuel tanks and the HARMs. As I did, I heard "Magnum" over the radio. That meant one of the other pilots had fired one of his HARMs toward the SAM's radar site.

Luckily, our defending worked.

The SAMs missed us and we got back into formation. Even though we'd already seen a lot of action, our mission was not over. We had to get our senses back, hit the tanker and work another 30 minutes near Belgrade. Those 30 minutes were deafly quiet compared to the previous 20.

After the sortie, we headed to Italy to land at Aviano Air Base because the weather had gotten bad back at Spangdahlem AB.

On the ground, it was a thrill to see the excitement in the maintainers' eyes. A lot of the maintainers had never seen a jet come back empty. The crew chief recovering my jet had never seen an F-16 return with the fuel tanks jettisoned. He was ecstatic I returned safely and proud everything on the jet worked as advertised. Personally, I just thanked God he brought me home safely.

Looking back at what happened further emphasizes the importance of our training. Up there, everything I did was instinctive, and any other pilot would have done the same. In fact, many pilots who flew in Allied Force experienced similar or worse incidents than I had. The training I received allowed me to respond to the SAM launches without wasting time. It really makes you appreciate every bit of training you've had.

Going into a war like that is exciting. While no pilot wishes for a war, when one does break out, we want to be there. You've trained so long for the big game and in war you finally get to play. (Air Combat Command News Service)

I'd seen a SAM before, but it was over Iraq during the day . . . this was a different animal.

Capt. Kevin Sutton

Service approves changes to 2001 selection boards

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Air Force officials have approved two changes to the 2001 selection board schedule.

The command screening board convening date was changed from Sept. 17 to Sept. 19 and the colonel judge advocate general competitive category was added to the colonels board which convenes Dec. 3.

Results from boards are generally released eight to 10 weeks after the boards adjourn.

The updated 2001 schedule is:

■June 18-29: lieutenant colonel medical service core; major line, judge advocate general, chaplain, MSC, biomedical sciences core, nurse core; captain JAG

■July 30 to Aug. 3: enlisted supplemental boards

■Aug. 20-24: special selection boards

■Aug. 27-31: captain line, JAG, chaplain, MSC, BSC and NC

■Sept. 4-14: professional military education board

■Sept. 19-28 command screening board

■Oct. 3-5: colonel Air National Guard, second session

■Oct. 9-19: chief master sergeant evaluation board

■Oct. 22 to Nov. 2: colonel medical core/dental core; lieutenant colonel MC/DC; major MC/DC

■Nov. 5-21: lieutenant colonel line, JAG, chaplain, BSC, NC; captain JAG

■Dec. 3-14: colonel line, JAG, chaplain, MSC, BSC and NC

(Air Force Print News courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center News Service)



Community Mailbox

Bake sale

Spangdahlem Middle School's Odyssey of the Mind team holds a Mother's Day bake sale 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday in the Spangdahlem AB main exchange. Proceeds from the sale go toward transportation to the OM World Finals in College Park, Md. For more information, call Jose Tovar at 452-9262.

Pet walk

The Spangdahlem Air Base Veterinary Treatment Facility holds a nature walk noon to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Oberweis facility. Call the pet spa at 452-9362 for details.

Flower distribution

The annual distribution of flowers, flower boxes and soil for military housing residents will be available Wednesday at the Spangdahlem AB Self-Help Store, building 454, and Bitburg Annex building 2026.

Operating hours are 7 a.m. to noon and 3-6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call the housing office at 452-6560.

AFSA meeting

The Air Force Sergeant's Association Chapter 1681 meets for a free lunch 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Spangdahlem AB Community Activities Center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Renzy Davenport at 452-6324.

Top Three breakfast

Senior NCOs and master sergeant selects are invited to a wing Top Three breakfast at 7:30 a.m. in the Mosel Dining Hall. The guest speaker is a retired officer who served with Medal of Honor recipient Airman 1st Class William Pitsenbarger.

For more information or to sign-up for the breakfast, call Master Sgt. Dennis Cox at 452-8365.

Married for Life dinner

The Eifel Christian Community



Staff Sgt. Tim Cook

Re-living the past

Melissa Willems and Ingvild Sunde use quill pens to write with in class during the Bitburg Middle School Colonial Day April 27. Fifth-grade students annually take part in the day where they relive colonial times by making candles, spinning yarn, quilting, cross-stitching and stenciling using items from the period.

Association sponsors a Married for Life fellowship dinner at 6:30 p.m. May 18 in the Albachmuhle Hotel, located off B-50. For more information, call Bob Lesane at 452-6331.

Volunteer readers

Bitburg Middle School needs volunteers to read during four morning sessions May 21. The intent is to help foster a love of reading among middle school students.

Sessions run 8:20-8:50, 8:55-9:20, 9:25-9:50 and 9:55-11:20 a.m. Each session requires 23 volunteers.

For more information or to volunteer, call Jesus Posadas at 452-9110.

University closes

Embry-Riddle University closes May 22 because of registration at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, Germany. For more information, call 452-7553.

Memorial Day hours

Both the Spangdahlem AB and Bitburg Annex commissaries close May 28-29 for

Memorial Day. For more information, call Mary Jensen at 452-9135.

Scholarships

The Spangdahlem Company Grade Officers Council offers quarterly \$100 scholarships to senior airmen and below pursuing a degree with a minimum grade point average of 2.5 and no unfavorable information file. Today is the deadline to apply. For more information, call Capt. Shawn Campbell at 452-6767.

Family support center news

The following classes take place in building 2001 on the Bitburg Annex. Call 452-9491 for details or to register.

- Creative critters 10-11 a.m. Monday.
- Air Force as a second language 6-7 p.m. Monday.
- Transition assistance program 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through May 18.
- Pre-deployment briefing 8-9 a.m. Wednesday.
- Veterans Administration representative available 10 a.m. to noon Thursday.

The following classes take place in building 307 on Spangdahlem AB. Call 452-6422 to register or for more information.

- European jobseekers noon to 1 p.m. Monday.
- Pre-deployment briefing 8-9 a.m. Tuesday.

Spring carnival

The Bitburg Elementary School Parent and Teacher Association seeks volunteers to help with a spring carnival taking place 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 19. Call Pamela Troester at 06561-604759 or e-mail pamela.troester@spangdahlem.af.mil before May 15 to register.

CDC closes

The Bitburg Annex Child Development Center closes May 25 because the halls and lobby areas will be carpeted. The facility will pro-rate the fees for the week. Parents who need child care may use the Spangdahlem AB facility.

Free mouth guards

Appointments are now available in the Spangdahlem AB Dental Clinic to be fitted for free mouth guards for sporting activities. To schedule an appointment, call 452-8193.

Girl Scouts

The Spangdahlem Air Base Girl Scouts seek a committee chairperson to fill a one-year appointment so scouting can continue after May 31. Call Lisa Denoncour at 06565-944587.

Yard of the month

Competition for yard and balcony of the month begins in June and continues through September.

Balconies are selected from Bitburg Annex and Spangdahlem Air Base housing areas. Government-leased housing areas compete for yard of the month. Winners receive plaques, certificates and other prizes donated by base organizations. Judging takes place toward the end of the month with the first set of winners announced in late June or early July. For more information, call the housing office at 452-6560.

AAFES offers propane tank lease, fill program

By Maj. Mitch Edgar
AAFES Europe

MAINZ KASTEL, Germany - As of April 23, most AAFES-Europe customers will have the option under the Lease/Fill Program to lease propane tanks provided by AAFES or fill their own propane tanks for use in gas grills.

People at Spangdahlem Air Base and the Bitburg Annex eventually will be able to participate in the program, just not yet, said Rick Talbot, local exchange retail business manager.

"Currently, we're working with the fire department, civil engineers and the environmental agencies to obtain a secured site to store the tanks," he said. "We anticipate the program will be initiated in mid-May."

Talbot said the Spangdahlem AB BXtra would be the first site to start the program since it has received storage approval and is currently being renovated to meet fire and building codes.

The second site will be at the Bitburg Annex Car Care Center.

"We haven't obtained storage authorization at this time; however, we're not aware of any obstructions that would preclude us from activating this site."

The Military Transportation Management Office introduced a regulation last May that prohibited military members from shipping propane cylinders, resulting in a shortage of tanks needed for that long-awaited summer barbecue.

Customers have the option of leasing AAFES tanks from facilities near fill points, normally shoppettes and 4 Seasons stores, after providing AAFES with a \$25 refundable deposit. The lease option allows the customer to pick up a full tank of propane immediately. When the tank is empty, the customer is able to return the tank to the fill point and

replace it with a full tank the same day.

An alternative approach to the Lease/Fill Program allows customers to stencil their names on their own propane tanks and pay AAFES to fill these empty tanks for them. These customers can return to the fill point a week later and pick up their own full propane tank. No deposit is required for those wanting to fill their own tanks.

Currently, the cost for filling an AAFES or a customer's propane tank in Germany is \$18.

Customers who have shipped propane tanks to Germany and have yet to dispose of these tanks can receive a \$10 coupon from AAFES if they turn in their tanks at their local fill point. Shipping propane tanks — including those that have been purged — isn't authorized. This coupon offer expires Dec. 30.

Movies

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

Bitburg Castle

Tonight

Somebody Like You (PG-13)

Jane has everything going for her with her daytime talk show and a hot romance. She begins an extensive study of male behavior to try to find out what makes men tick. Her research leads her to become an overnight guru for single women everywhere.

Saturday

Somebody Like You

Sunday

Finding Forrester (PG-13)

Known as the neighborhood recluse, silver-haired Forrester is a man whose mystery and eccentricity border on the mythical. When Jamal leaves behind his backpack full of writings, together they learn family isn't always what you're born with — sometimes it's the people you find, sometimes it's the people who find you.

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

Monkeybone (PG-13)

Life couldn't be better for Stu. He's happy, in love and on the verge of success as his comic strip is about to become a national television show. But on the night Stu is to propose, he's struck down in a freak accident and he must outwit death.

Thursday

Saving Silverman (PG-13)

Four guys have been best friends since the fifth grade, when they swore nothing could break them up, but a great-looking, manipulative psychiatrist tries to break up their friendship.

Spangdahlem Skyline

Tonight

Down to Earth (PG-13)

When Lance finds himself at Heaven's door, he is convinced there has been a mistake. Miraculously he is right, so a heavenly agent places him into the corpse of a rich Manhattan mogul who has just been bumped off by his wife.

Saturday

Pokemon III (G) 4 p.m.

The strange Pokemon Annon comes to a girl named Mi because of a strange card left by her father. With the help of Annon, a crystal begins to envelop a tower. Mi's solitude and loneliness makes the entire tower a crystal. Ash's mom is taken to the crystal tower by Entei. So Ash must somehow rescue his mother and Mi.

Down to Earth

Sunday

Pokemon III

Monday

Finding Forrester

Tuesday

3,000 Miles to Graceland (R)

A group of ex-cons plan a heist of a Las Vegas casino during an Elvis impersonator convention that will serve as a cover and a distraction.

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Times and movies are subject to change.
For the most current information,
call 452-9441.

Nearby park features eagles, wolves

By Iris Reiff
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

In one of the most beautiful castle ruins of Gerolstein, about 45 minutes from the base, lies a spectacular park which was established in 1970 for eagles and wolves.

A daily entertainment program offers people the opportunity to see the feeding of the largest pack of wolves in Western Europe. Shows take place at 3 p.m. daily with flying demonstrations of rare eagles, falcons and other birds of prey following at 3:30 p.m. Tours are available in English upon request.

Inside the striking Kasselburg castle ruin, with its 37-meter high twin towers standing impressively above deep ravines, is the home of a unique reserve of more than 20 species of birds of prey as well as a wildlife park integrated into the natural surroundings.

The birds are harmoniously accommodated within the castle walls. All kinds of birds, ranging from golden eagles to small kestrels, live there. In the eagle and falcon sanctuary, people can learn what the rare birds of prey look like while at the same time gaining an insight into the necessity for the bird's protection.

During the show, a falconer explains the different flying behaviors and the special skills of each bird of prey. The light hunting approach flight of the falcon over the heads of the visitors and the powerful wing beat of the golden eagle can be observed and



Iris Reiff

A park falconer prepares to send a bird of prey on a mock hunting flight.

photographed from up close.

On the castle slopes in the reserve visitors can see the wolves, which are anxiously waiting for feeding time to arrive. This spectacle is definitely worth seeing. From a distance, people can see herds of

wild boar, fox, marten, weasel, wild ferret and other small predatory animals.

The comical young wild boars can be seen frolicking there in spring. Sometimes wild horses and sheep can be seen at the Kasselburg park. A children's farm offers dwarf goats that will eat from children's hands. A playground is located in front of the old Adlerhorst forest hotel and restaurant. Parents can keep an eye on the children while having a snack or refreshment on the terrace. A special water organ is another attraction of the park and can be found inside the restaurant.

The Kasselburg castle dates back to the 12th century. The 37-meter high "living" towers with eight floors are quite unique.

The city of Gerolstein is a state-approved fresh air health resort. Because of its mineral water and rich mineral resources, Gerolstein is well known across its district and state boundaries. To get to Kasselburg, go through Oberkail and follow the signs toward Kyllburg, make a sharp right following a sign to Saint Thomas. From here, follow the signs to Gerolstein, then to the Kasselburg castle ruins.

Parking is available near the entrance of the park. It opens 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily through mid-November. For more information about the Kasselburg Wolves and Eagles Park or to make reservations for an English speaking guided tour, call 06591-4213.



Out and about



■Listen to classical music by Mercedes Sosa tonight in the Trier Europa hall. Call 0651-14599-0 for details and tickets.

■Enjoy Tag des Tanzes or the Day of Dances between 1-6 p.m. Sunday in the Trier Tuchfabrik cultural center, located on Weberbach/Wechselstrasse. People can watch or participate for free in the following dances: afro dance, oriental dance, videoclip dancing, classical ballet, modern dance, experimental dance, step dance, hiphop, dance ability and Argentino tango. Beverages and homemade cake will be available for purchase during the event.

■Shop at a flea market Sunday in the center of Cochem, along the Zeltingen-Rachtig Mosel shore; along the Traben-Trarbach Mosel shore; at the Trier Messepark grounds; at the Daum train station; in front of the Bernkastel-Kues Norma market, located in the Kues part of town; at the Idar-Oberstein festival grounds; and on Bad Kreuznach Kulberg.

■Experience 2,000 years of pottery in the local area during a special exhibition May 20, at the Speicher Plein-Wagner pottery and stoneware museum. The event, which takes place 1-5 p.m., is held in conjunction with the International Museums Day, celebrated May 20 throughout the country.

■Plan to see the world-famous star tenor singer Jose Carreras in concert at 9 p.m. June 29 at Luxembourg-Kirchberg. This unique event with the title "Classic Open Air" will attract many visitors

from Germany and the Benelux. Tickets can be reserved at 00352-507750 or at fax number 00352-504916.

■Saar-Pedal and Happy Mosel are two bicycling events attracting crowds of people from throughout the Eifel area. Saar Pedal takes place May 20 while Happy Mosel kicks off June 10. Details will be printed in an upcoming issue of the Eifel Times.

■Reserve your ticket now for a May 19 boat cruise in Wiesbaden. Entertainment includes two Def Comedy Jam comedians, DJs playing a variety music on all five levels of the boat, a domino tournament, a hair show competition, a fashion show and live entertainment featuring Chris Dugger. Tickets are \$25 or 50 DM. People who wish to take the bus from Bitburg pay \$35. For more information or to reserve tickets, call 0173-764-8716.

■Plan to attend a two-hour volksmarch May 27 through the Meulendorf forested area, sponsored by the Niersbach volksmarching club. The event kicks off at 10 a.m. from the Niersbach Mehrzweck hall. Food and beverages will be offered following the march.

■The civil engineering operations spouses group offers a polish pottery bus trip June 1-3. The bus departs at 8 p.m. June 1 with a return time of about 1 a.m. June 3. Cost is \$80 per person. Call Anne Watkins at 06563-930528 for details.

■Join the Eifel Wanderers in Malberg for their 31st Annual

International Volksmarch 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 19 and 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 20 for 5-kilometer (stroller friendly), 10K and 20K trails. For more information, call David Westwood at 06561-18758.

■Attend an exhibition featuring ceramic and textile art by four Hungarian artists. The show takes place through Sunday in the "Old Mill" of the Himmerod Abbey. The display is open 2-6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

■Make plans to attend the Rheinland-Pfalz Tag 2001 June 15-17 in Landau. It's the biggest folk festival of the state, offering German and American forces static displays, historical information booths, art and culture, a children's festival, open air concerts, a parade through the city and German food. For more information, call 06341-13183 or visit www.Rlp-tag.de.

■Cochem castle recently opened for the 2001 summer season. The castle, located within 15 minutes walking distance of the town of Cochem, is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Entry is 7 DM for adults and 6 DM for children. Groups of 12 and more people pay 6 DM each.

■Purchase tickets now for Trier's historical open-air plays of the city's annual Antiquity Festival June 27 through July 22.

■Explore Verdun, France, with members of the German-American Friendship Club May 19. Call Gisela Traut at 452-6172 or Marlies Wallen at 452-6063 for details or to register.

■The Gondorf Eifel Park recently opened for the 2001 season. Park information will be featured in an upcoming issue of the Eifel Times.

Information, Tickets and Tours offers the following tours in May. Call the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activities Center at 452-6567 or the Bitburg Annex community center at 452-9120 for details.

■Paris overnight Saturday. Cost is \$185 for adults, \$130 for children 3-12.

■Mosel River dinner cruise and wine tasting Saturday. Cost is \$48 per person.

■Six Flags, Holland, Saturday. Cost is \$59 for adults, \$49 for children 39-inches minimum height to 55-inches maximum.

■Rhein River cruise Sunday. Cost is \$39 for adults, \$29 for children ages 4-13.

■Cochem medieval dinner May 19. Cost is \$65 per person.

■Paris express May 19. Cost is \$89 for adults, \$75 for children ages 3-17.

■Belgian grottoes and safari park May 19. Cost is \$45 for adults, \$25 for children ages 3-12.

■Köln zoo and aquarium May 20. Cost is \$30 for adults, \$25 for children 4-17.

■Spain for three nights May 24-28. Early booking cost is \$198 for adults.

■Poland deluxe tour for two nights May 25-28. Early booking cost is \$289

Academy rugby team captures trophy

Air Force cadets beat both Army, Navy academies at 18th Alamo City Fiesta Rugby Battle

SAN ANTONIO — The Air Force Academy cadet rugby team defeated teams from Annapolis and West Point to win the Commandant's Trophy at the 2001 Alamo City Fiesta Rugby Battle April 28.

The Air Force shut out the Naval Academy team 12-0 in the morning and beat the West Point team 24-5 in the afternoon, to close their regular spring season.

In addition to winning the Commandant's Trophy, the academy also fielded a team in the concurrent Sevens Tournament, competing against 14 local and regional teams. Sevens is a version of rugby with seven players per side rather than the normal 15 players. It also has shorter halves than regular rugby games. The academy team won third place in that competition.

"Our biggest strength was teamwork and consistency," said Troy Harting, Air Force coach. "In other games throughout the season we had moments of brilliance with a few mistakes behind them, but here we played very level, consistent games with a lot of effort from the opening whistle to the closing seconds. When we gave them that kind of pressure every second of the game we made it real hard for them to recover and that's what ultimately lead to our victory."

Junior Matt Clugston, captain of the team, scored twice and played strong defense in both games, according to the coach. Junior Jacob Leck, who had only been playing rugby for about two months,



Bob Jensen

Air Force Academy center Cadet Third Class Robin Kiska (with ball) breaks through the Navy defense with Cadet Third Class Tim Grady (left) and Cadet Fourth Class John Matchet supporting him.

had the best tackle of the tournament, said assistant coach Rob Holder.

"Here's 160-pound Jacob Leck, who took on a six-foot-four or five Army guy, lifted him up in the air, pushed him and drove him back and really stopped an Army drive down near the try line," Holder said.

Junior Tony Ewers scored once and provided "a well-rounded presence on the field," Harting said.

The Sevens Competition was the first time this academy team played the abbreviated version of rugby.

"There weren't any guys on the team with any experience in Sevens before this weekend. So it was a real accomplishment for them to go 5 and 1 to win third place,"

Holder said.

The Air Force Academy rugby team has been sending its junior teams to play in the annual San Antonio tournament since 1987. Starting in 1994, Alamo City Rugby Football Club, the tournament sponsors, started inviting all three academies to send their junior teams down to compete against each other.

"The military academy teams are really the central highlight of our tournament during Fiesta, which is a huge city-wide celebration here in San Antonio," said Luis Hernandez, tournament coordinator. "And the military guys on our team helped work the details to support bringing in the three academy teams."

The academy teams do play each other one on one several times during the year, but this tournament is the only one at which they are all together Harting said.

"I really enjoy the inter-academy games because in a way it's almost like playing ourselves," he said. "They have different styles in how they conduct their game but the athletes, the guys themselves, are much like ours. We come from similar backgrounds, have that similar military service and typically we don't outweigh a whole lot of people out on the field. We rely on our fitness, our discipline and our speed because that's where we want to be. I think in a lot of ways Navy and Army select that approach also."

Holder said the inter-service sports rivalry can lead to inter-service cooperation and friendship in the future.

"In my own life I look at the fact that I'm an Army grad, coaching at Air Force and some of my best friends are from the Naval academy," he said. "I've developed great friendships at all the academies and beyond that among all the teams in the services."

Harting echoed Holder's comments. "The environment we work with in the military today is more joint than ever," he said. "Matches like these reinforce (the) bond. It allows us a familiar face, sort of a rugby brother, when we do meet up in those joint operations." (Air Force Print News)

Eifel Sports World

High school softball

Bitburg High School's Lady Barons softball team came away with a pair of wins in a pitchers' duel Saturday in England against London Central.

The defending Division II champion Lady Barons pitched a season-high 62 percent strike-to-ball ratio against the Lady Bobcats 69 percent to post a 6-2 record on the season, said Coach Ray Wood.

The squad hosts defending Division I champion Lakenheath Lady Lancers today at home. The team travels to Stuttgart Saturday to face division rival Patch Lady Panthers.

	Hits	RBI	Runs	Steals
Lindsay Sherrier	4	2	2	1
Amanda Updike	3	1	4	2
Katlyn Phillips	1	3	2	1
Sarah Kempf	1	2	1	0
Miranda Lavey	0	5	1	0
Tanya Moore	3	3	1	0
Ashley Rita	0	0	2	2
Heather Hugen	1	2	2	0
Jenni Coleman	1	3	2	1
Jennifer Kempf	6	1	6	1
Jessica Brei-Crawley	1	1	1	0

High school soccer

In a makeup match of a previously rained out game, the Bitburg High School Lady Barons survived a 4-3 shootout following a double overtime to beat the International School of Brussels May 4 in Belgium. The two were tied 2-2 after regulation and 3-3 after the second OT.

The squad then pounced on winless Allied Forces North 3-0 Saturday. As a result, the Lady Barons will take the Division II-North crown with a win Saturday against Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe or an ISB loss against AFNORTH the same day.

Kendra Mackett and Jessica Wood scored regulation goals. Wes Canada added the OT score and Kayla Swenson hit the game winner against ISB. Wood added one and Canada two goals in the win against AFNORTH.

Lady Sabers softball

The Spangdahlem Air Base Lady Sabers varsity softball team opens the 2001 season in a game against Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Spangdahlem AB ball field.

The Lady Sabers season schedule follows:

- Saturday vs. Giessen
- May 19 vs. Kaiserslautern
- May 20 at home vs. Ramstein
- June 2 at home vs. Mannheim
- June 3 vs. Heidleberg
- June 9 vs. Hanau
- June 23 at home vs. Baumholder
- July 7 vs. Rhein-Main
- July 14 vs. Wiesbaden
- July 21 at home vs. Darmstadt

Track championships

Spangdahlem Air Base sponsors the U.S. Air Forces in Europe 2001 Track and Field Championships May 26. The day-long competition begins at 10 a.m. at the Bitburg city stadium and includes more than 25 men's and women's events.

Spangdahlem AB seeks military ID card holders

interested in participating in events. People should submit their intent to participate to the Spangdahlem AB fitness center by May 18. Each submission must include a name, rank, social security number, organization and events to enter. Call 452-6496 for more information.

Free massages

The Health and Wellness Center offers free five-minute back massages in recognition of May as Fitness Month. Massages are by appointment only 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. by calling 452-9355.

Fitness center news

Participate in the following events celebrating May as Fitness Month.

- Three-on-three basketball takes place at 5 p.m. Monday.
- Base volleyball enthusiasts meet at 1 p.m. May 18.
- Tennis enthusiasts meet to play at 10 a.m. May 21.
- Play horseshoes at 2 p.m. May 21.
- A bench press competition takes place at 2 p.m. May 22.

Events meet at the Spangdahlem Air Base fitness center, building 152, unless specified otherwise. Call 452-6496 for more information.

Golf news

A four-person scramble golf tournament takes place at 8 a.m. Saturday. Cost is \$10 for an 18-hole select shot game.

Call 452-6821 for more information.